

Amendments to the Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently amended). ~~The use of VEGF to screen~~ A method of screening for
a substance capable of affecting the phosphorylation state of p120 and/or p100, said method
comprising:

- (a) obtaining a first population of cells and a second population of cells, wherein
said first and second populations of cells comprise p120 and p100;
- (b) treating said first and second populations with vascular endothelial growth
factor (VEGF);
- (c) treating said first population, but not said second population, with a substance
to be screened for its ability to affect the phosphorylation state of p120 and/or
p100; and
- (d) comparing the phosphorylation state of p120 and/or p100 in said first
population of cells to the phosphorylation state of p120 and/or p100 in said
second population of cells,

wherein a difference in the phosphorylation state of p120 and/or p100 in said first population
of cells compared to that in said second population of cells identifies said substance as being
capable of affecting the phosphorylation state of p120 and/or p100.

Claim 2 (Currently amended). ~~The use of VEGF, as claimed in~~ The method of
claim 1, wherein the ~~screen is for a substance~~ identified by said method is capable of blocking
the dephosphorylation of p120 and/or p100.

Claim 3 (Currently amended). ~~The use as claimed in~~ method of claim 2, wherein the dephosphorylation is from the phosphorylated serine and/or threonine residues present in p120 and/or p100.

Claim 4 (Cancelled).

Claim 5 (Cancelled).

Claim 6 (Currently amended). ~~The use of VEGF to screen~~ A method of screening for a substance capable of interfering with a VEGF-initiated pathway regulating p120/p100 serine/threonine phosphorylation, said method comprising:

- (a) obtaining a first population of cells and a second population of cells, wherein said first and second populations of cells comprise p120 and p100;
- (b) treating said first and second populations with vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF);
- (c) treating said first population, but not said second population, with a substance to be screened for its ability to interfere with a VEGF-initiated pathway regulating p120/p100 serine/threonine phosphorylation; and
- (d) comparing the level of serine/threonine phosphorylation of p120/p100 in said first population of cells to the level of serine/threonine phosphorylation of p120/p100 in said second population of cells,

wherein a difference in the level of serine/threonine phosphorylation of p120/p100 in said first population of cells compared to that in said second population of cells identifies said substance as being capable of interfering with a VEGF-initiated pathway regulating p120/p100 serine/threonine phosphorylation.

Claim 7 (Currently amended). The use of VEGF, as claimed in method of claim 6, wherein the pathway is the PKC-p120/p100 pathway.

Claim 8 (Currently amended). The use of VEGF, as claimed in method of claim 6 or claim 7, wherein ~~the screen is~~ said method is used to identify ~~an inhibitor and/or a competitor and/or an activator of VEGF~~ a substance selected from the group consisting of an inhibitor of VEGF, a competitor of VEGF, and an activator of VEGF.

Claims 9-19 (Cancelled).